

**DIGITALLY MODELING THE DEFORMATION OF GINGIVAL  
TISSUE DURING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A computer obtains a digital model of a patient's dentition, including a dental model representing the patient's teeth at a set of initial positions and a gingival model representing gum tissue surrounding the teeth. The computer then derives from the digital model an expected deformation of the gum tissue as the teeth move from the initial positions to another set of positions.

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